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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

COUNTRY	Austria	REPORT	
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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC					
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)															

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General

the 735th Separate Radio Communications Battalion at Baden (N 48-01, E 16-14), Austria participated in two field exercises, both during summer 1954. The battalion function in both exercises was to provide decimetric radio communication between two simulated front headquarters, one located in Baden, the other at some unidentified location in Hungary, possibly even east of Budapest (see sketch on page 5).

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The first field exercise took place in July 1954, and the second in August 1954. Both of them lasted approximately 10 days. The entire battalion participated in these exercises and both exercises were identical in so far as could tell. the method of operation was the same; For example, unit went by truck each time to the same spot near Sopron (N 47-14, E 16-36), Hungary.

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battalion's participation in the exercise began when the entire battalion motored from the unit caserne in Baden to a concentration point area due east of Baden, which was about 17 kilometers from the caserne. Here the battalion CO called the officers of the unit together and gave them specific assignments. At this point, the chiefs of the 12 battalion radio units, all of them lieutenants or senior lieutenants, were each given maps that showed exactly where his particular station was to be located during the exercise. Ten of the stations were identical

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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relay units and two were terminal units. ² After the assignments were made, the entire battalion, with the exception of [] relay unit station, motored back to Baden.

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Battalion Aspects of the Exercises

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The sites for all of the relay stations had been chosen by the battalion CO and chief of staff on a preliminary reconnaissance about two weeks prior to the first exercise in July. The absence of these officers and the purpose of their reconnaissance were common knowledge []

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[] after [] both exercises, three radio stations had left the unit in Baden. Of the three stations, two remained in Baden to make up an operational terminal station consisting of one relay unit, and one terminal unit to provide communications at one of two simulated front headquarters. The third unit, a relay type, also remained in the Baden area as a reserve unit. The remaining eight station units were loaded on a train at Baden and transported by rail to Hungary.

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[] some of the trucks were loaded one to a flatcar and some were loaded three trucks to two flatcars. []

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[] this echelon detrained about 10 kilometers beyond Budapest, Hungary.

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The Baden echelon, with its echelon relay unit and terminal unit, formed one end of a line of units. []

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[] The other relay units were deployed somewhere to the east, in a line extending eastward, with an operational terminal station at the far end of the line (see Sketch on page 6).

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[] Upon arrival by truck at their designated point, the station unit did nothing for the first day. On the morning of the second day, the station antenna was set up and the station chief [] oriented the antenna with the aid of a map and compass. During this operation, an RBM-1 radio was used to maintain communications with the adjoining station units on either side.

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After the antenna had been oriented for clearest reception, and the decimeter communications had been established, the 500-cycle service channel of the RVG-902E was used for necessary intra-battalion communication between stations. ³ The RBM-1 was then reverted to standby status to be used only as an emergency expedient between stations, in the event that decimetric communications failed.

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At 2400 hours of the second day in the field, [] station began to fulfill its mission of maintaining communications; it remained operational day and night for an eight-day period. Frequencies were assigned by CGF and call-words were assigned by the battalion CO. []

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[] For intra-battalion matters all personnel were assigned numbers by the battalion CO according to their duty with the station. The chief of station, an officer, had a certain number, the duty radio mechanics another, and the generator mechanic still another; when a particular station was called, the identifying number was given and the proper party was summoned. These numbers remained unchanged throughout the exercises. [] when data was being transmitted between the simulated headquarters

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which the unit was supporting, the relay stations normally could not cut in unless specifically directed. For that reason [] station had no idea of the actual maneuver transmissions.

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Concealment and Deployment

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[] It had been stressed in training that whenever possible, the stations would be located in a wooded area. Each of the three trucks [] had a pick, an axe, and a two-man saw for clearing an area where the trucks could be concealed. For further concealment each truck carried a green and yellow camouflage net. Theoretically these nets should have been over the trucks during the exercises, but the station chief did not deem it necessary.

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During both exercises, [] station crew of one officer and nine EM furnished a sentry at night who walked the perimeter of the station. [] infantry guards would be assigned this duty under wartime conditions. Also, the officer in charge of the station told him that all the unit's trucks would be rigged with explosives to be detonated if under threat of imminent capture in wartime.

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During the exercises, three station trucks [] were disposed about 20 meters from one another. This was contrary to all the theoretical SOP that the unit had received in garrison training. During the training lectures they were told that the terminal truck would be located at a distance of 200 to 300 meters from the decimeter truck. The antenna, however, was set up according to SOP, i.e., within 20 meters of the decimeter truck, to allow sufficient antenna lead-in for maximum extension of the antenna mast, which was 30 meters. Three 50-meter antenna lead-in cables were carried in the antenna truck, with one being held as a spare. The generator truck was also parked by according to SOP, i.e., 20 meters from the decimeter truck it supported.

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Food and Other Supply Procedures During Exercises

Food was brought daily [] by one of the battalion trucks that was assigned to the Service Platoon. Fuel for either the trucks or the diesel generators was never brought up. Even though the generators were in operation for eight days on a 24-hour basis, there was sufficient operating fuel within the individual unit. [] under the chassis of the generator truck was a tank with a capacity of 260 liters of diesel fuel.

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Accompanying Unidentified Soviet Signal Regiment on Exercises

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During both of the field exercises an unidentified Soviet signal regiment which was garrisoned in the same compound [] went by rail with the train echelon [] to the exercises.

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[] the signal regiment 1 had enough men, approximately 700, and equipment to operate 50 radio and RTT stations. [] unable to identify the RTT equipment other than calling it "Baudot", but stated that the radio equipment was designated by the abbreviation "RAF" the expansion of which was unknown [] the "RAF" units were mounted on a GAZ-51 chassis and that they utilized a whip antenna which was seven meters high when extended. The units got their power from a one-cycle gasoline generator, designated model L-3. [] these radio stations could operate while the vehicle was moving.

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15. [] the RTT mobile stations "Baudot" were mounted on ZIS-151 chassis but could give no further information on these stations. [] indefinite as to the mission of this signal regiment but thought that its mission during the exercises was to furnish signal support to Army or Corps headquarters and their respective subordinate units. 5

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Critique of Exercises

16. Both exercises held during the summer of 1954 were observed by Gen-Maj Prekhaday (fnu), the former CO for communications, CGF, and Col Yefimov (fnu), the CO for communications, CGF. Prekhaday had been relieved of his command duties in May 1954 and was given another unknown job with CGF. After the first exercise, which was held in July 1954, [] did not know of any critique being held. However, after the second exercise in August 1954, both the unidentified signal regiment and [] battalion assembled at Sopron, Hungary, where a critique was conducted by the two above-listed officers. All officers of both units attended. The session lasted about three hours. After returning from the critique, [] station chief, [] told the men that the exercise was a success and that the CGF officials were pleased with it.

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A Soviet Army Maneuver in Hungary

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17. In late August and early September 1954, a Soviet Army maneuver was held in Hungary and approximately 15 telegraphers [] and about the same number from the Signal Regiment were sent to Kecskemet (N 46-54, E 19-41), Hungary, to participate in the maneuver. [] they were gone for approximately 15 days.

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4. [] Comment: [] referred to "RAF" as being an abbreviation for "Radiostantsiya-Armiya-Frontovaya".

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5. [] Comment: [] during the exercises, the regimental RTT stations were occasionally stationed at decimetric relay stations []. On these occasions wire was laid from the regimental trucks to the decimetric relay trucks, and the FTE-3B terminal sets in the latter trucks were utilized to channel signals to the regimental trucks.

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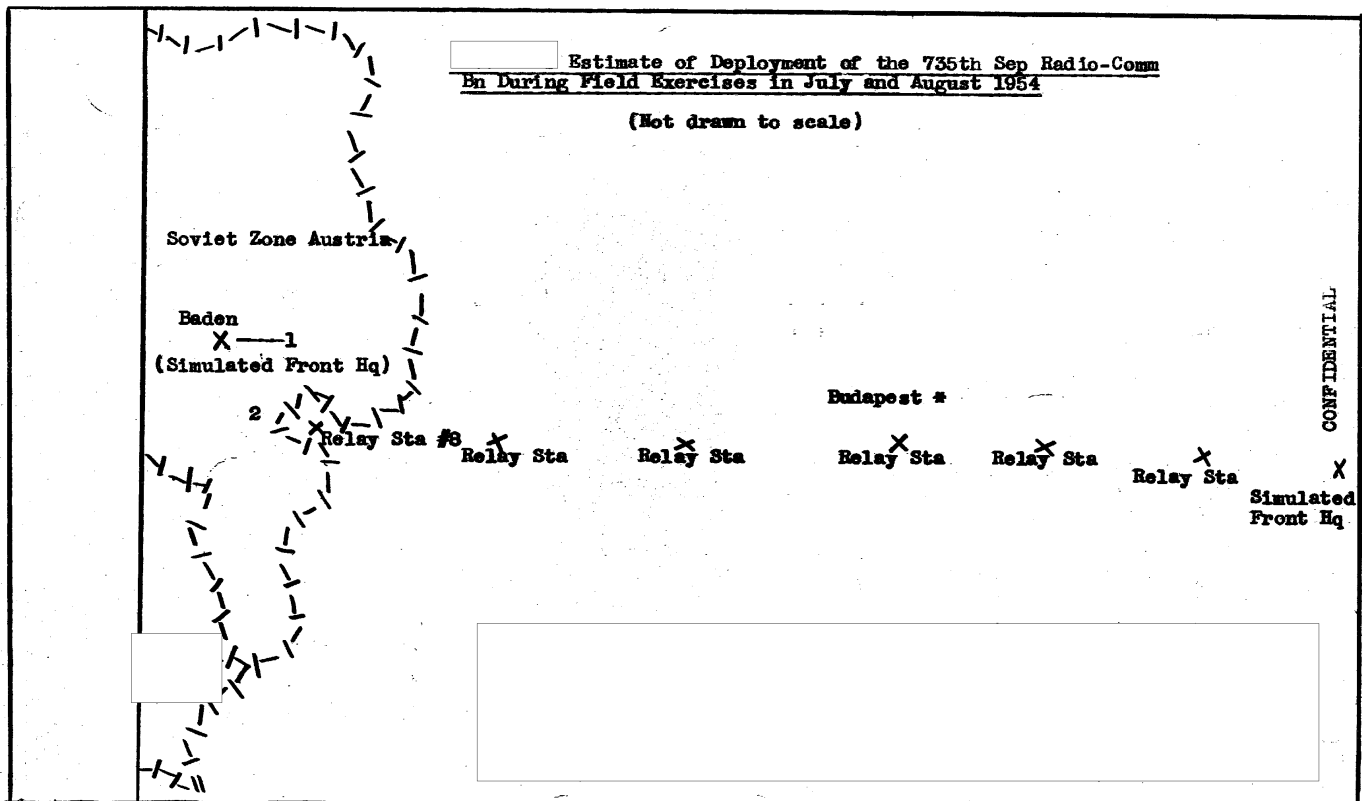
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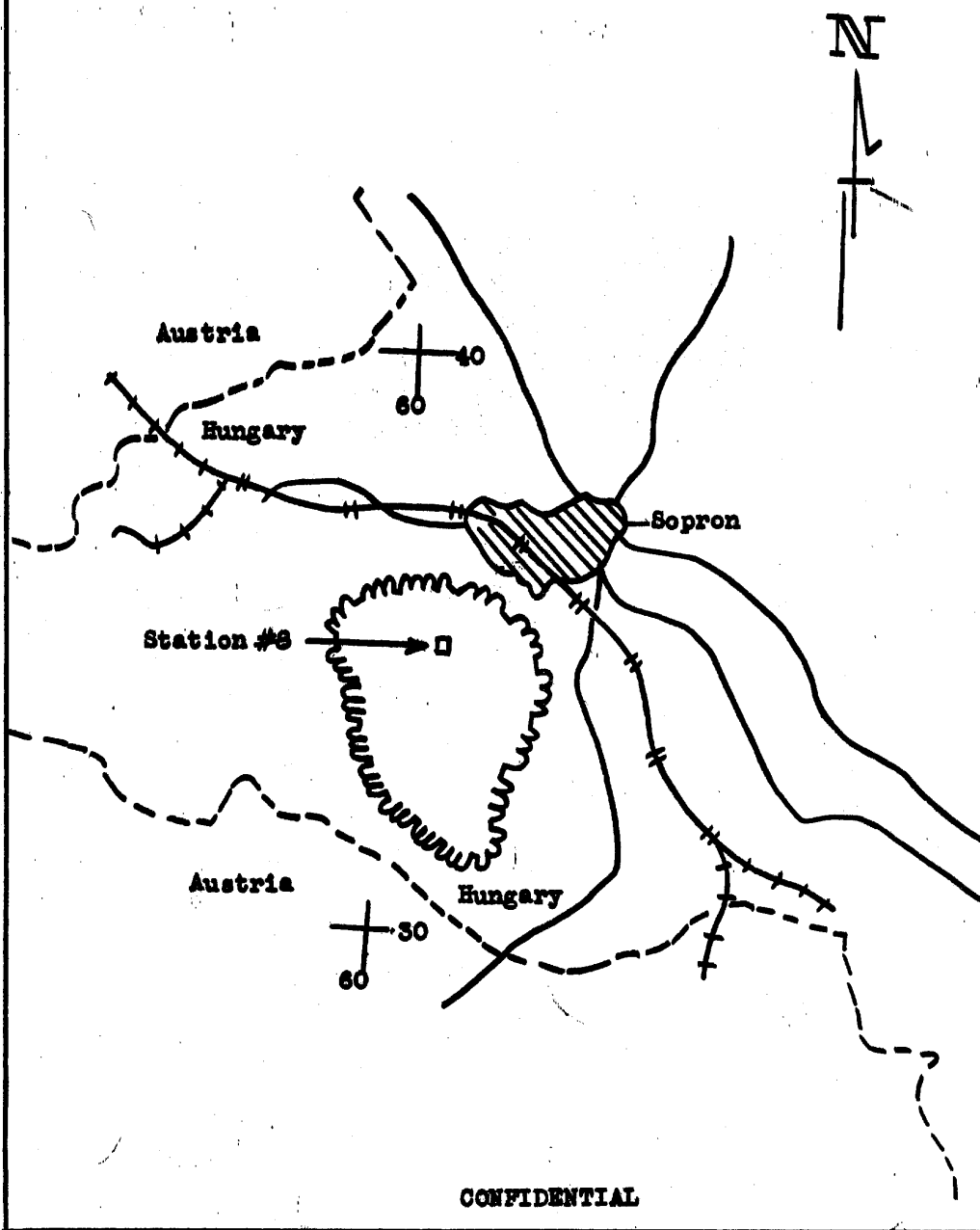
Location of [redacted] the 735th Sep Radio-Comm
Bn at Sopron (N 47-41, E 16-36) Hungary, During Field
Exercises Held in July and August 1954

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([redacted] scale:
 1:100,000, Sopron, Hungary)

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